

WIGAN ATHLETIC



Official Programme

20p

Wednesday, 22nd August, 1979 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC
- v -
HUDDERSFIELD TOWN

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Club Directory

WIGAN ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL
CLUB LTD.

REGISTERED OFFICE:
SPRINGFIELD PARK, WIGAN.
Telephone Wigan 44433.

CHAIRMAN:
Mr. A.O. Horrocks.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:
Mr. A. Muir.

DIRECTORS:
Messrs. J.H. Farrimond,
A. Eckersley, G.D. Gorner,
B. Connolly.

COMPANY SECRETARY:
Mr. D. Welsby.

TEAM MANAGER:
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:
Mr. J.T. Sudworth.

HON. MEDICAL OFFICERS:
Dr. G. Menon and Dr. S.K.
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Match Ball Donors

The Wigan Athletic
Football Club wishes to
thank all those who have
donated match balls. Any
individual or organisation
wishing to join the scheme
is asked to contact the
Commercial Manager,
Springfield Park, Wigan.
(Telephone: Wigan 43067)

Our front page pic this issue features
Noel Ward challenging for a high ball in
the penalty area. (Photo by courtesy of
a supporter).

Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill

Welcome to Huddersfield Town



I WOULD like to welcome
Mick Buxton and his team
to Springfield Park. They
have certainly started with
a bang. After neatly
disposing of Crewe in the
League Cup, they followed
up by accounting for
favourites Aldershot in
their first league match.

League Cup Exit

It was very disap-
pointing to go out of the
League Cup to our near
neighbours Stockport
County. Over the games I
felt we ran into an inspired

goalkeeper in Dave Lawson, and, but for Dave, I am sure we
could have got through to the Second Round. He certainly
paid back a slice of the near £20,000 fee that was paid for
him.

On the same subject, I was more than pleased with our
late signing Chris Shyne. He did all that was asked of him
and made one tremendous save. He also performed well at
Darlington, where we gained a good point, although I feel
two points were there for the taking. However, the ability to
take one away and two at home stands good, and, if we can
maintain that this season, we won't be far away at the end.
Frank Corrigan.

I am hoping, this season, that Frank Corrigan will get the
praise he deserves from our supporters. He made a first-
class entry into League Football last season, yet some of
our fans were all too keen to get on his back. To date he has
been our most consistent player in pre-season and
competitive games. Players really thrive on
encouragement, and, given a level break this year, Frank
will convince everyone, what I already know, that he is the
best left-sided midfielder player in the Fourth Division.

Names for the Future

I have been very impressed by our two young
apprentices, David Glenn and Mark Wignall; both have a
tremendous potential and I foresee a bright future for them.
David we found on our doorstep, two hundred yards from
Springfield Park, while Mark is a Preston lad, who was
spotted by our ace sleuth, policeman Joe Pey.

Enjoy tonight,

Ian McNeill.
Ian McNeill.

WELCOME TO



HUDDERSFIELD TOWN 1979/80 — **Back Row:** J. Robson (Coach), K. Hanvey, C. Topping, P. Fletcher, D. Sutton, R. Taylor, A. Starling, M. Brown, M. Lillis, B. Mellor, P. Gartland, J. Haselden (Coach Physio). **Middle Row:** P. Hart, J. Branagan, I. Holmes, P. Sandercock, M. Laverick, I. Robins, F. Robinson, P. Gibson, P. Bielby. **Front Row:** T. Smith, D. Cowling, M. Buxton (Manager), D. Brook, T. Armstrong.



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HUDDERSFIELD TOWN

ONE GREAT privilege afforded Wigan Athletic by their election to the Football League was to be able to visit, last season, the magnificent Leeds Road ground of Huddersfield Town. The grand scale of the stadium's construction, and the historical background of the club, emphasised to the Wigan Athletic party that they were now part of something very special indeed — the august and select body of the Football League.

Although Wigan were to take three points out of four from the two league games played last season, both fixtures were dour Lancashire v Yorkshire struggles. Playing conditions were almost worlds apart; the game at Huddersfield being played in bright sunlight, whereas, at Wigan, conditions were more suited to Winter Sports, as the country battled against the hazards of snow and ice. Indeed, the game played at Wigan was the only game played north of Leicester on that bleak February day!!!

Another privilege, last season, was to meet several men who had weathered the storms and hard knocks which our favourite game hands out in merciless fashion. Among those whom we were all delighted to meet was Mick Buxton, the Huddersfield Town manager, Mick, whose own playing career was tragically cut short by injury, showed great determination and character, by leading Huddersfield from the lowly position which the

club occupied when he took over to tenth position in the final league placings for Season 1978 - 1979.

It would appear, from early results, that the "Terriers" are intent on better days than those they have experienced of late. Three wins from their first three competitive games, with a goal tally of seven for and two against, is an impressive beginning by any standard. The Yorkshire side now face Grimsby Town in the Football League Cup, having disposed of Crewe Alexandra, and Mick Buxton is far from despondent at the prospect of tangling with the newly-promoted "Mariners". Whatever the outcome, the money from the two-legged tie will be most welcome to both clubs in these demanding times. Last Saturday's victory over the highly-fancied Aldershot side was a tremendous boost for the Huddersfield players, and it will no doubt put them in good heart for the visit to Springfield Park.

The acquisition of Fred Robinson (defender) and Mick Laverick (midfield) is expected to add greater skill and experience to the Town ranks. In the main, however, Huddersfield will rely on the players who served them so well last season.

Welcome then to Huddersfield Town, and let us hope that the game will provide some top-class entertainment for the spectators, who, as ever, will thrive on the prospect of an encounter between the roses of Lancaster and York.

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Commercial Chatter

MANY THANKS to the fans who supported our first Soccer Charter Train venture to Darlington last Saturday. The behaviour of those travelling on the excursion was first-class and reflected great credit on the club. The Railway Police on the train commented most favourably, and the Police at Darlington reported a trouble-free day. It is hoped that any future trips will be blessed with similar sensible support. The one big disappointment was that more supporters did not take advantage of the facility, but perhaps the fixture, holidays, the difficulty of booking at an out-of-town office and high cost were factors causing this.

Thanks also for the many favourable comments which have been made about our new-style programme. A great deal of time and trouble goes into the production of each programme and we hope you will be proud of each lively and informative issue.

I would be most ungrateful, if I did not, at this time, express the club's gratitude for the manner in which the fans and the general public at large

have supported the activities of the Development Association and the Support for Soccer Society during the close season. Sales of fund-raising tickets are always difficult to maintain during the Summer, but there has been a good sale of Bingo and Lottery tickets even in the holiday period. Remember, we cannot build a better Wigan Athletic without your support, and we would be pleased to receive applications for agencies from persons living in districts where we are not well-represented. Ask at the offices situated between the Main Stand and the Supporters' Club for details of fund-raising activities sponsored by the two support societies.

We are particularly pleased to announce that tonight's game has been sponsored by D.A. Builders, Building and Roofing Specialists, of York Street, Wigan. Under the personal control of their principal, Mr. Derek Asson, D.A. Builders have gained our respect by the manner in which they have assisted the Wigan Athletic Football Club, not only last year, when we were newly-elected to

the Football League, but also throughout last season and the recent close-season, when they have carried out tasks both great and small. The raising of the perimeter wall was completed speedily and effectively, and this week they have been putting the finishing touches to our new programme and lottery ticket selling-point near the administration block. Many thanks, Derek, both to you and your boys, for all your hard work, and a special thank you for sponsoring tonight's game.

The match ball for tonight's game is donated by Melling and Bath Ltd., Manchester Road, Westthroughton (telephone: Westthroughton 813391), who specialise in sheet metal and metal fabrications. A family-owned firm employing forty people from surrounding areas, Melling and Bath Ltd. do sub-contract for firms such as Ingersoll-Rand, Ruston Bucyrus and Coles Crane. Thank you, gentlemen, for the interest you have shown in our club.

Until the next time, best wishes from Jack Sudworth.

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(see also our Business Consultants advertisement)

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Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

THE PRE-SEASON work is now complete, the players have all worked tremendously hard and we are all now hoping for a successful season.

The trials have unearthed a crop of good young players and I am very pleased with the quality of players I now have at my disposal.

At reserve team level the squad consists of the non-contract players who did so well for me last season, plus the new players signed from the trials, and finally the full time professionals who, for one reason or another, are not in the first team at that time. In the three pre-season games we were unbeaten with two wins and a draw, scoring eleven goals. All in all a pleasing pre-season record.

This season Wigan will be also running a third team: this is basically for young talented players who may not yet be physically strong enough to command a place in the reserve team. The youngsters will gain valuable experience playing against boys of their

own age (anything from 15 years to 18 years) from Liverpool, Everton, Manchester United, etc., and all the top Football League clubs in the North.

This league is an excellent training ground for young players. We have also entered the F.A. Youth Cup and have been drawn away to Rhyl in the first round early in September.

The Youth team is being run by David Crompton who has had such a successful spell as Manager of Wigan Schoolboys. With his background as a professional footballer and school-teacher, he is an ideal man for the job of handling players of that age and any parent who sends his boy along to Springfield Park will know that he is in good hands.

For my part, when the time comes for any player to be moved up into the reserve team, I will know they have been well schooled in the good habits and playing techniques required at Wigan Athletic by all the teams and they should slot into my team a lot easier.

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Player Profile

Photograph by courtesy of The Evening Post & Chronicle



BOB WARD (Goalkeeper)

BOB WAS BORN in West Bromwich and received his early education in the area, progressing to the West Bromwich Technical High School at Secondary School level. At school he played as a midfield player, but, when he was fifteen he was injured during a game and, rather than go off the field, he went into goal. He has been in goal ever since.

After leaving school he joined W. and T. Avery to be trained as a draughtsman, but still retained his interest in Soccer by playing in a local amateur team. He was spotted by West Bromwich Albion and played in their third team as an amateur, whilst gaining qualifications at College — O.N.C. in Mechanical Engineering.

Bob signed professional forms for West Brom when he turned eighteen, and made his First Team debut at nineteen. He had the wonderful experience of playing with the stars of the West Brom side which he had idolised from

the terraces, since he had been a supporter from the age of ten. He played in the Reserves at West Brom for four years, during which time he made about fifteen appearances in first team games. After five years at "The Hawthorns" Bob's registration was transferred to Blackpool for £20,000.

No sooner had Bob joined Blackpool than the seaside team drew West Bromwich Albion in the F.A. Cup. On a memorable day at "The Hawthorns", before a thirty thousand plus crowd, the local lad, who must have known about 10,000 in the crowd, played against his favourite team. The joy of the occasion was dampened by the result, a 1 - 4 defeat for Blackpool, but the local boy had the satisfaction of having a good game.

After making twenty-eight successive appearances for Blackpool in the Football League, Bob lost his place in goal, and, although from time to time he turned out in the Blackpool colours, he was never again able to call the first team spot in goal his alone. Disenchantment set in and he had no hesitation in joining Wigan Athletic, when the opportunity presented itself in the Summer.

Bob's interests include all sports, but mainly golf and cricket, apart from football. His family consists of himself, his wife and their dalmatian dog.

Recently injured, Bob hopes to be back in action soon and has set his target as being accepted as the club's number one goalkeeper.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

Only seven clubs from the Fourth Division of the Football League have made it to the Second Round stage; games involving these clubs are as follows:

DONCASTER ROVERS	- v -	EXETER CITY
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	- v -	OLDHAM ATHLETIC
NOTTS COUNTY	- v -	TORQUAY UNITED
GRIMSBY TOWN	- v -	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN
QUEENS PARK RANGERS	- v -	BRADFORD CITY
STOCKPORT COUNTY	- v -	CRYSTAL PALACE
PETERBOROUGH UNITED	- v -	BLACKPOOL

Ties are to be played on August 29th and September 5th, 1979.

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WHERE THE

"Wigan Athletic Football Club Season 1979 — 1980."

Photograph courtesy of "The Wigan Observer".



ABOVE

Back Row: (Left to Right) N. Ward, I. Purdie, D. Brownbill, J. Brown, R. Ward, K. Smart, M. Quinn, J. McDermott.

Middle Row: D. Colquhoun (Physiotherapist), J. Hinnigan, J. Wright, G. Urquhart, N. Hart, N. Davids, J. Curtis, F. Corrigan, P. Houghton, D. Fretwell, K. Banks (Trainer/Coach).

Front Row: T. Gore, A. Crompton, J. Wilkie, I. McNeill (Manager), A.O. Horrocks (Chairman), M. Moore, M. Wignall, K. Mayer.

TOP RIGHT:

Peter Houghton, fighting against the odds, sets himself to dispute possession with a Bournemouth Defender having already left one opponent to sit the challenge out.

BOTTOM RIGHT:

Frank Corrigan, pressure inside the box.

Springfield Spotlight

ACTION IS . . .



HT:
an puts the
ence under
de the six yard



Photograph courtesy of The Evening Post & Chronicle



Photograph courtesy of The Evening Post & Chronicle

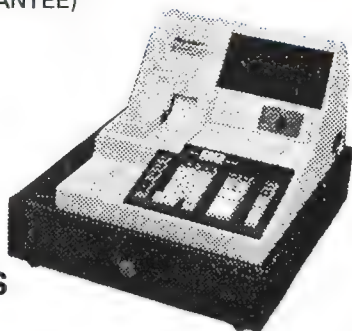
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Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

AS IT'S the first match of a new league season tonight I thought it would be interesting to recall the first match ever played at Springfield Park by Wigan Athletic.

The historic game took place on August 27th 1932, when, about a year after Wigan Borough had folded, a team under the managership of former international centre half Charlie Spencer took the field at Springfield Park against Port Vale reserves.

Latics had been accepted into the Cheshire League, a competition they were to grace for many, many years.

Sadly though, that first match ended in defeat, Port Vale winning 2-0.

The pages of the Wigan Observer recorded the event thus: "Last Saturday's opening match proved a grand augury for a happy and successful season in spite of the points going astray. The sevenpenny "gate" was one telling factor in these times of slender purses and the committee must have warmed with gratitude to the 5,000 spectators that were present. The attendance was proof

conclusive that Wigan wants a club, and as the team settles down and matches are won, there is no reason to doubt that these figures will be practically doubled".

Port Vale Reserves were considered to be the best side in the Cheshire League at that time and against such strong opposition Athletic, who a week previously had no team at all signed on, put up a performance that did the side every credit.

The two goals which decided the historic match were scored 15 minutes into the second half, both within the space of three minutes.

First, a long cross was taken by McGrath who gave Wigan goalkeeper Abbott no chance with a powerful shot, then Nolan, slipped clean through and scored an easy goal.

The first team to wear the colours of Wigan Athletic in a competitive game was: Abbott, O'Dell, Callachan, Allon, Spencer (Capt.), Wake, Chambers, Smith, McCabe, Henderson, Murphy. Port Vale Reserves: Davies (B), Cope, Breeze, Millington, Bliss, Birks, Baker, Davies (R.G.), Nolan, Beech, McGrath.

LATICS AWAY

WIGAN ATHLETIC fans travelling by car to Stockport County's ground at Edgeley Park are probably well aware of the route, but for those of short memory, or first time visitors, we provide the vital details. Use Motorways M.63 or M.56 until end, following signposts. Join A.560. signposted Stockport, and in less than half a mile turn right into Edgeley Road.

About one mile further, turn right into Caroline Street for Stockport County Football Club. PLEASE REMEMBER THE GAME IS BEING PLAYED ON SATURDAY, 25th AUGUST, 1979, KICK OFF AT 3.00 p.m.

Have a good, safe journey and get right behind our boys!!

Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.
† Player substituted.

² Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F	A	ATT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1-2	6 004	R Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton ¹	Brownbill	Purdie	Urquhart	
Aug 15	STOCKPORT FLC1	0-0	7 591	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdie	Moore	
Aug 18	Darlington	2-2	2 063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan ¹	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie ¹	David	
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD															
Aug 25	Stockport County															
Aug 29	League Cup 2															
Sep 1	PORTSMOUTH															
Sep 5	League Cup 2															
Sep 8	Bournemouth															
Sep 15	YORK CITY															
Sep 19	HARTLEPOOL															
Sep 22	Hereford United															
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY															
Oct 2	Hartlepool United															
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED															
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town															
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers															
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY															
Oct 24	ROCHDALE															
Oct 27	Newport County															
Nov 3	DARLINGTON															
Nov 6	Rochdale															
Nov 9	Tranmere Rovers															
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE															
Nov 24	F.A. Cup 1															
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON															
Dec 8	Walsall															
Dec 15	F.A. Cup 2															
Dec 21	CREWE															
Dec 26	Peterborough															
Dec 29	STOCKPORT															
Jan 1	PORT VALE															
Jan 5	Halifax Town															
Jan 12	Portsmouth															
Jan 19	BOURNEMOUTH															
Jan 26	ALDERSHOT															
Feb 2	York City															
Feb 9	HEREFORD UNITED															
Feb 16	Bradford City															
Feb 23	DONCASTER															
Feb 29	Lincoln City															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE																
WIGAN ATHLETIC RESERVES — SEASON 1979/80																
1979																
Aug.	20	Altrincham Res.	H													
	24	Stockport C. 'A'	H													
Sept.	21	Chester 'A'	H													
	8	Macclesfield T. Res.	H													
Oct	10	Everton 'A'	A													
	17	Altrincham Res.	A													
Oct 6	20	Liverpool 'A'	A													
Oct 9	22	Southport Res.	H													
Oct 13	22	Bolton W. 'A'	H													
Oct 20	6	Bradford C. Res.	A													
Oct 24	8	Burnley 'A'	H													
Oct 27	13	Morecambe Res.	H													
Oct 29	20	Wrexham Res.	A													
Nov 3	27	Rochdale Res.	H													
Nov 6	20	Morecambe Res.	A													
Nov 9	17	Tranmere R. Res.	H													
Nov 17	10	Manchester U. 'A'	A													
Nov 24	24	Rochdale Res.	A													
Dec 1	21	Oldham Ath. Res.	A													
Dec 8	8	Oldham Ath. Res.	H													
Dec 15	21	Southport Res.	A													
Dec 21	26	Liverpool 'A'	H													
Dec 26	29	Macclesfield T. Res.	A													
Dec 29	180															
Jan.	5	Port Vale Res.	H													
	12	Carlisle U. Res.	H													
Jan 5	19	Crewe Alex. 'A'	A													
Jan 12	19	Carlisle U. Res.	A													
Jan 19	16	Chester 'A'	H													
Jan 26	23	Manchester U. 'A'	H													
Feb 2	23	Everton 'A'	A													
Feb 9	29	Stockport C. 'A'	A													
Feb 16	7	Tranmere R. Res.	A													
Feb 23	14	Manchester C. 'A'	H													
Feb 29	22	Manchester C. 'A'	H													
Mar 8	29	Bradford C. Res.	H													
Mar 14	12	Bolton W. 'A'	A													
Mar 22	19	Burnley 'A'	A													
Mar 29	26	Wrexham Res.	A													
Apr 4	3	Port Vale Res.	A													
Apr 5	May	Crewe Alex. 'A'	H													

LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE																
WIGAN ATHLETIC 'A' — SEASON 1979/80																
1979																
Aug.	18	Formby Res.	H													
	25	Manchester U. 'B'	A													
Sept.	1	Everton 'B' (SC)	A													
	8	Formby Res.	A													
	22	Bury 'A'	H													
	29	Tranmere R. 'B'	A													
Oct.	6	Preston N.E. 'A' (SC)	H													
	13	Manchester Un. 'B'	A													
	27	Oldham Ath. 'A'	A													
Nov.	10	Preston N.E. 'A' (SC)	A													
	17	Tranmere R. 'B'	A													
Dec.	1	Bury 'A'	H													
	8	Everton 'B' (SC)	A													
	29	Blackburn R. 'A'	H													
Dec 29	1980															
Jan.	23	Preston N.E. 'A'	A													
	19	Liverpool 'B'	A													
	26	Everton 'B'	H													
Feb.	2	Liverpool 'B'	H													
	9	Oldham Ath. 'A'	H													
	23	Everton 'B'	A													
Mar.	8	Burnley 'B'	H													
	22	Blackpool 'A'	A													
	29	Blackpool 'B'	A													
Apl.	19	Blackburn R. 'A'	H													
	26	Preston N.E. 'A'	H													

S.C. Denotes Supplementary Competition.
Three clubs in each Section. (Sectional winners to play each other).

LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE WIGAN ATHLETIC RESERVES — SEASON 1979/80

1979	Aug. 20	Altrincham Res.	H	2-0
	24	Stockport C. 'A'	A	
	Sept. 1	Chester 'A'	H	5-0
	8	Macclesfield T. Res.	H	2-0
	15	Everton 'A'	A	4-0
	17	Altrincham Res.	A	2-0
	22	Liverpool 'A'	A	2-0
	22	Southport Res.	H	
	Oct. 1	Bolton W. 'A'	H	
	6	Bradford C. Res.	A	
	8	Burnley 'A'	H	2-1
	13	Morecambe Res.	A	
	20	Wrexham Res.	H	
	27	Rochdale Res.	A	
	Nov. 3	Morecambe Res.	A	
	10	Tranmere R. Res.	H	
	17	Manchester U. 'A'	A	
	24	Rochdale Res.	A	
	Dec. 1	Oldham Ath. Res.	A	0-6
	8	Oldham Ath. Res.	H	1-0
	21	Southport Res.	A	3-0
	26	Liverpool 'A'	H	2-0
	29	Macclesfield T. Res.	A	2-0
1980	Jan. 5	Port Vale Res.	H	
	12	Carlisle U. Res.	H	
	19	Crewe Alex. 'A'	A	
	26	Carlisle U. Res.	A	
	Feb. 2	Chester 'A'	H	
	16	Manchester U. 'A'	H	
	23	Everton 'A'	A	
	29	Stockport C. 'A'	A	
	Mar. 7	Tranmere R. Res.	A	
	14	Manchester C. 'A'	H	
	22	Manchester C. 'A'	A	
	29	Bradford C. Res.	H	
	Apr. 5	Bolton W. 'A'	A	3-1
	12	Burnley 'A'	A	
	19	Wrexham Res.	A	
	26	Port Vale Res.	A	
	May 3	Crewe Alex. 'A'	H	

LANCASHIRE FOOTBALL LEAGUE WIGAN ATHLETIC 'A' — SEASON 1979/80

1979	Aug. 18	Formby Res.	H	
	25	Manchester U. 'B'	A	
	Sept. 1	Everton 'B' (SC)	A	
	8	Formby Res.	A	
	22	Bury 'A'	A	
	29	Tranmere R. 'B'	A	2-1
	Oct. 6	Preston N.E. 'A' (SC)	H	
	13	Manchester Un. 'B'	A	
	27	Oldham Ath. 'A'	A	
	Nov. 10	Preston N.E. 'A' (SC)	A	
	17	Tranmere R. 'B'	A	1-1
	Dec. 1	Bury 'A'	A	4-1
	8	Everton 'B' (SC)	H	
	29	Blackburn R. 'A'	A	
1980	Jan. 23	Preston N.E. 'A'	A	
	19	Liverpool 'B'	A	
	26	Everton 'B'	H	
	Feb. 2	Liverpool 'B'	H	
	9	Oldham Ath. 'A'	H	
	23	Everton 'B'	A	
	Mar. 8	Burnley 'B'	A	
	22	Blackpool 'A'	A	
	29	Blackpool 'A'	H	
	Apr. 12	Burnley 'B'	A	
	19	Blackburn R. 'A'	H	
	26	Preston N.E. 'A'	H	

S.C. Denotes Supplementary Competition.
Three clubs in each Section. (Sectional winners to play each other).

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Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



IN THESE DAYS of spiralling transfer fees it seems, at least at this early stage of the season, that Fourth Division sides are getting fair return for their stars. In fact Portsmouth unloaded mid-field player Steve Foster to Brighton for the Fourth Division's biggest close season pay day.

Further along the coast at Dean Court, Bournemouth didn't fare too badly either when they eased £90,000 out of Norwich City for Roger Brown — a defender with limited experience.

Huddersfield and Southend have been involved in some rather amiable dealings. Huddersfield picked up £45,000 for the sale of Terry Gray and then promptly gave Southend £35,000 back for Mick Laverick.

Going back to Portsmouth, and they haven't exactly been slow in bringing in new players, new acquisitions John McLaughlin from Swindon, Alan Rogers from Plymouth, and Terry Brisley from Charlton failed to see them safely over the League Cup first hurdle — Swindon Town putting them out.

On the other hand, Peterborough United go down as one of the most active in the transfer market to date. One of their star buys is the Ipswich player Mick Lambert, picked up at a bargain £50,000. Surprisingly it was also the Posh who paid

a near record transfer fee for a player from a non-league club when they snapped up Kettering's Billy Kellock for £25,000. To balance the books, Peterborough have unloaded Bill Green to Chesterfield, Billy McEwan to Rotherham United and Gary Sargeant and Dennis Byatt to Northampton Town. And the result? A crushing victory over Second Division Charlton in the League Cup.

Other moves to be noted in the past weeks include Fulham's John Evanson to Bournemouth for £15,000, Brian Chambers from Millwall to Bournemouth and Alan Warboys from Hull City to Doncaster Rovers for £12,500.

Shrewd Darlington raked in £25,000 from the sale of defender John Stone and immediately came up trumps by signing the experienced West Ham defender Keith Coleman. Coleman is not the only player with First Division experience to find himself on a free transfer. Via Everton, Birmingham City and Portsmouth, Archie Styles finds himself at London Road with Peterborough.

Crewe Alexandra, like Wigan Athletic, do not believe in spending money unnecessarily. At the end of the day, it is not always the club which spends the most that eventually takes the honours!!

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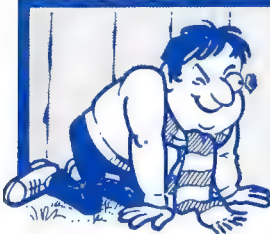
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Inside Information

by I. Spy

MIXED a right bottle by the staff of a local medical centre, this week, was Bill Brown, the hard-working promoter of the Support for Soccer Society. Arriving at the centre to deliver introductory leaflets to the lottery scheme to Doctor Lee, a medical practitioner with amateur football interests in the Leigh area, Mr. Brown was almost persuaded that he had been given the wrong name so adamant were the medical staff that the doctor he wanted to see was "Doctor Dongaree." (Sorry, doc, that's the nearest we can get to Bill's pronunciation of your name).

After a brief but animated conversation with a gesticulating, bemused Far-Eastern doctor, Bill finally cracked it and was taken along to see Doctor Lee. The result — another agency signed up for our lottery. What Bill will do to sell tickets!!!

Commercial Manager, Jack Sudworth, has recruited yet another lovely lady for the sales'

department of Royal Blue Enterprises (Wigan Athletic). Mrs. Val. Cookson, formerly employed by Wigan Rugby League Club, will join the staff early in September. Val's experience in the fund-raising field will be of great benefit as the push is made to develop the lottery.

Currently gaining in popularity among the players, as a leisure pursuit, is the noble game of golf. Hardly surprising, when Ian McNeill, a great lover of the game, is such a devotee. Ian denies, however, that the best way of guaranteeing a place in the side is to act as his caddy. One poor unsuspecting player actually offered to caddy last year and was given a dog's life by his teammates. As the player concerned is adequately equipped for tossing the caber let alone carrying golf clubs, I refuse to reveal the identity of the fair-haired giant!!

A VERY good evening to all Supporters at our first home Fourth Division fixture of the 1979/80 season, from everyone at the Supporter's Club.

A special welcome also to all the Supporters who have become club members since the season started.

Remember that almost every evening, we offer a social atmosphere and entertainment that caters for all ages and tastes. For example, Tuesday and Friday evenings we have bingo sessions with six jackpots available to be won on each evening. On Thursday evenings we have darts and dominoes and, believe me, friendliness on these nights is always hand in hand with sporting rivalry. As you know on Saturday and Sunday nights we have our top-line cabaret presentations; our forthcoming attractions are:-

Saturday, August 25th	—	Guy Kempton
Sunday, August 26th	—	Stuart Paul
Saturday, Sept. 1st	—	Lee Castle
Sunday, Sept. 2nd	—	Alan Lewis

Hot and cold refreshments are always available.

Looking back to last Thursday night, 16th August, our club was chosen to be the venue for the Greenall Whitley — Cambrian Ladies' Darts and Dominoes Annual Presentation, and a fantastic night of first class entertainment was enjoyed by a full capacity club. We were delighted to receive a promise to stage the event at Wigan again next year.

Looking forward, we have, on Monday, 10th September, a return visit of the "Big Band Sound". A full eighteen-piece band will play music to suit all tastes. When the band appeared

Supporters Club News



in the club a few months ago, musicians from all parts of Lancashire were our guests and voted the performance first-rate!!

Tickets are now available.

Last week we held our inaugural meeting to form a bowls section, open to ladies as well as gentlemen, and I am happy to say that this venture appears destined to be very successful.

Please remember, less than the price of one packet of cigarettes will make you a full member and you will be able to make use of our facilities.

Here's to a good match and a good result tonight.

Sincerely,
Peter Woods



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A last word from the chairman . . .

OUR EARLY exit from the Football League Cup left us all disappointed but instilled into everyone a greater determination to do well in the League Competition this season.

These notes were written before our visit to Darlington and I hope that the outcome of that game gave us a flying start to our League programme.

Stockport Chairman, Freddie Pye, and his Directors, congratulated us on our successful entry into the League, and further complimented us on the many ground improvements and in particular the playing area which they stated was magnificent.

Incidentally, Freddie Pye likes plenty of ice in his whiskey, so I suggested he provide us with a Boardroom 'fridge. Without hesitation he said he would and knowing him I know he will. Thanks Freddie.

I am proud to be able to announce that, for the first time ever, Wigan will be the venue for the next Divisional Meeting of the Football League. I will, on behalf of the Club, be hosting some of the "Top Brass" on Thursday, 6th September, to lunch followed by the meeting. Considering we are newcomers to the League I deem the opportunity to stage this meeting a great honour for the Club.

I regret I will be abroad when tonight's game is played, but I extend to the Huddersfield Town Chairman and his Directors, a hearty welcome to Springfield Park. I assure them that in my absence, my Vice-Chairman and other Directors will extend to them the same high standard of hospitality we always receive when we visit them.

I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming our newest Director, Mr. Brian Connelly, to his first match as a Director.

After tonight's game I will be receiving a telephone call in my hotel when I hope to hear that after a good, clean game "Latics" have gained two points.

Your vocal support is greatly appreciated by the team, so let's hear that encouraging roar.

Finally, help us to keep the pitch in first-class condition by refraining from encroaching on the playing area at any time.

Yours sincerely,
Arthur Horrocks.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Horrocks'.

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Teams

**Wigan
Athletic**
Royal Blue
& White Stripes)

Chris Shyne	1	Alan Starling
Kevin Smart	2	Malcolm Brown
Joe Hinnigan	3	Fred Robinson
Tommy Gore	4	Ian Holmes
Noel Ward	5	David Sutton
Dave Fretwell	6	Keith Hanvey
Frank Corrigan	7	Micky Laverick
Jeff Wright	8	Peter Hart
Peter Houghton	9	Peter Fletcher
Micky Moore	10	Ian Robins
Ian Purdie	11	David Cowling
Neil Davids	12	Jim Branagan

**Huddersfield
Town**
(Yellow)

Officials

Referee:
Mr. John Lovatt
(Crewe)

began refereeing in 1962. Progressed via Mid-Cheshire and Cheshire County Leagues to Football League list. Has acted as linesman for F.A. and Anglo-Scottish Finals. An Office Manager, he is married with two children. Enjoys squash and tennis, and does valuable work with local football and coaching referees.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
Mr. G. Jones
(Wirral)
Yellow Flag
Mr. J.J. Shawcross
(Northwich)

Here next...

Saturday, 1st September, 1979. Kick off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v PORTSMOUTH
Football League Division Four